

## HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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Eddie A. Perez, Mayor

Ramon Rojano, Director

## CITY OF HARTFORD AWARDED \$4.6 MILLION TO FIGHT AIDS

## ---NEWS RELEASE---

(February 28, 2006)--- Mayor Eddie Perez is pleased to announce that effective tomorrow (March 1<sup>st</sup>), the City of Hartford will receive more than \$4.6 million to combat AIDS as part of the Ryan White Grant.

Mayor Perez says, "This is significant because this represents a four-percent increase over the funding we received last year. This will help service the approximately 3000 people living in the Greater Hartford region who are infected with HIV and AIDS."

This program is administered by the Hartford Health and Human Services Department and is implemented in partnership with the Ryan White Planning Council.

Ramon Rojano, HHS Director says, "This additional funding will allow us to implement a quality management program to enhance quality of services across all targeted areas."

Those services include housing, transportation, medical assistance and meals as well as legal and financial advocacy.

The grants is named after Ryan White, who lost his battle with AIDS almost 16-years ago. Ryan's story gained international attention because he was determined to live a normal life, including going to school. His efforts helped dispel many myths about AIDS.

For further information about the Ryan White Title I Program, call (860) 547-1426 x7028.